REMARKS

In view of the restriction requirement, the specification and claims have been amended to the oxidation decomposition element analyzer.

In paragraphs 1-3 of the Action, claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Godec et al., Lee-Alvarez et al., and Wright et al., respectively. However, the cited references do not disclose or suggest the features of the invention.

As recited in claim 1, an oxidation decomposition element analyzer comprises a sample supply portion for supplying a sample to be analyzed, an oxidation reagent supply portion for supplying an oxidation reagent, an oxidation reaction portion connected to the sample supply portion and the oxidation reagent supply portion to receive the sample and the oxidizing reagent for reaction, an analyzing portion connected to the oxidation reaction portion for analyzing an oxidized component to be measured to obtain a concentration of the component, and a controlling portion electrically connected to the sample supply portion, oxidation reagent supply portion and oxidation reaction portion.

In the invention, the controlling portion includes means for controlling operations of supplying the sample and the oxidation reagent to the oxidation reaction portion such that the oxidation reagent is supplied to the oxidization reaction portion before the sample is supplied thereto and the sample is supplied after elapse of time during which impurities contained in the oxidation reagent are removed through an oxidization decomposition at the oxidization reaction portion.

Namely, in the invention, by the means for controlling operations, the oxidation reagent is at first supplied to the oxidization reaction portion, and after impurities contained in the oxidation reagent are removed thereat, the sample is supplied to the

oxidization reaction portion to react with the oxidation reagent. Accordingly, the precise measurement can be done in one measurement at the analyzing portion without being affected by the impurities contained in the oxidation reagent or further processing.

In paragraph 1 of the Action, it was held that Godec et al. teaches an apparatus comprising a sample supply portion 10, a reagent supply portion 18 or 36, an oxidation reaction portion 46, an analyzing portion 56 and a controlling portion 106. It is held from column 8, line 65 to column 9, line 6 of Godec et al. that the control and electronic module 106 controls the voltages and current to all of the electrical components, actuation of valves and switches in a pre-determined time sequence, and processing of the electrical signals and calculation of total organic carbon concentration and so on.

However, the controlling portion of the invention includes means for controlling operations of supplying the sample and the oxidation reagent to the oxidation reaction portion such that the oxidation reagent is supplied to the oxidization reaction portion before the sample is supplied thereto and the sample is supplied after elapse of time during which impurities contained in the oxidation reagent are removed through an oxidization decomposition at the oxidization reaction portion. The electronic module 106 of Godec et al. does not disclose or suggest the means of the control portion of the invention. The specific operation as recited in the controlling portion of the invention is not disclosed or suggested in Godec et al.

In paragraph 2 of the Action, it was held that Lee-Alvarez et al. teaches an apparatus comprising a sample supply portion 48, a reagent supply portion 66, an oxidation reaction portion 16, analyzing portion 28 and a controlling portion 54.

However, numeral 66 in Lee-Alvarez et al. is a titania catalyst, which contacts the specimen to reduce the activation

temperature of the specimen and thus increase catalytic oxidation effectiveness. Combustion chamber 16 catalytically oxidizes a specimen to provide carbon dioxide and water, and carbon dioxide is measured by a carbon dioxide detector 28. Therefore, numeral 66 is not a reagent supply portion, and the catalyst 66 does not provide a function of supplying a reagent.

Further, the control portion 54 of Lee-Alvarez et al. does not have the function or means for controlling operations of supplying the sample and the oxidation reagent to the oxidation reaction portion, as clearly recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Lee-Alvarez et al. does not disclose or suggest the features of the invention.

In paragraph 3 of the Action, it was held that Wright et al. teaches an apparatus comprising a sample supply portion 92 or 96, a reagent supply portion 62, an oxidation reaction portion 56, an analyzing portion 130 and a controlling portion 44, which are shown in Fig. 2. However, the basic system is shown in Fig. 1, wherein it is explained in column 3, lines 49-54 that a sample of water is pumped from a source of water 12 into the reactor system 18, mixed with additives from the source 14 and with air from the source 16 for mixing the additives and water, and the organic carbon is oxidized in the reactor system 18 and measured in the detection system 20. Namely, the controlling portion 44 of Wright et al. does not have a function or means such that the additives are supplied to the reactor system before the sample is supplied thereto and the sample is supplied after elapse of time during which impurities contained in the additives are removed through an oxidization decomposition at the reactor system. Therefore, the control portion of the invention is not disclosed or suggested in Wright et al.

In the cited references, the controlling portion or system is disclosed for controlling the valves and the entire system.

However, the controlling portions in the cited references do not disclose or suggest the specific means as recited in the controlling portion of the invention. The invention is patentable over the cited references.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

A one month extension of time is hereby requested. A check in the amount of $110.00 is attached herewith for the one month extension of time.

Respectfully Submitted,

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